



U.S. TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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NEWS RELEASE

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR PHILBIN ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF EGYPT: FORWARD WEBSITE

WASHINGTON, DC –Today, at the “Update on U.S.-Middle East Trade Initiatives”, sponsored by the Washington International Trade Association and the U.S.-Middle East Free Trade Coalition, USTDA Deputy Director Peggy Philbin announced the launching of an online portal for its *Egypt: Forward Initiative*, <http://EgyptForward.ustda.gov>.

“Just as the events in Egypt were launched using new online technologies, USTDA is bringing our response online in an unprecedented way,” announced Deputy Director Philbin. “The *Egypt: Forward* website will serve as an online community to further commercial relationships between the U.S. companies and Egyptians.”

The *Egypt: Forward Initiative* is assisting to advance near- and medium-term business opportunities between the U.S. and Egypt. The *Initiative* began with a two-day Forum and multiple site visits held in late June of this year to highlight that “Egypt is open for business” as it goes through its historic transition. Over the next year, USTDA is going to build upon this success through organizing a series of technical workshops in Cairo in the ICT, energy, transportation and agribusiness sectors. The website will be regularly updated with resources, information, and upcoming events related to the U.S.-Egypt trade relationship.

The website represents a collaborative effort among many U.S. Government and private sector associations that seek to expand commercial relationships between the United States and Egypt. The more than sixteen partners include the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and the U.S.-Egypt Business Council.

Deputy Director Philbin was speaking on the “Update on U.S.-Middle East Trade Initiatives” panel to highlight how USTDA is advancing the U.S. Government’s trade agenda in the Middle East through a diverse set of programs that are opening markets for increased U.S. exports to the region.

The website is available online at <http://EgyptForward.ustda.gov>.

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.

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